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LIGHTNING

COMICS

Lightning rushed to
destroy the attack-
ing Nazi Fleet.



A NEW AND BIGGER

Sur-PRIZE Contest!!!

There are three big, handsome picture portraits of LIGHTNING, MARVO, THE RAVEN, or any of your other favorite LIGHTNING COMICS characters, just waiting for three lucky readers to win them. Any boy or girl would be proud to have one of these great portrait pictures, and YOU might be one of the lucky three who will get them. These portraits are not copies, nor prints, but LARGE SIZE, ORIGINAL DRAWINGS, made especially for the contest winners by our top-notch artists. EACH OF THESE FINE DRAWINGS WILL BE AUTOGRAPHED by the artist. They will be suitable for framing and make a grand decoration for the wall of your room.

There is one way, and only one way, you can try for one of these portraits, and that is by entering this contest right now. Here are the VERY SIMPLE rules:

CAREFULLY fill out the ballot below this announcement, and write a simple statement of 100 words, telling us your favorite characters in LIGHTNING COMICS, and why you have chosen them, and mention any new type of story you might like to read in this magazine.

To each of the authors of the three best letters will go ONE OF THESE BIG ORIGINAL, AUTOGRAPHED PORTRAITS of the character they place first on their ballots.

The contest closes August 30, 1941. Duplicate awards will be made in case of ties.

THIS BIG FREE SUR-PRIZE CONTEST IS OPEN TO ALL. IT COSTS NOTHING TO ENTER. GET BUSY AND SEND IN YOUR LETTER AND BALLOT RIGHT NOW. YOU MAY BE ONE OF THE LUCKY WINNERS.

BALLOT...

To:
LIGHTNING COMICS
Ace Magazines, Inc.
67 West 44th Street, New York, N. Y.

My favorite characters in LIGHTNING COMICS are the following, listed in order of preference.

1.
2.
3.
4.

My favorite character in ANY OTHER COMIC BOOK is:

The character I DON'T LIKE in LIGHTNING COMICS (if any) is

NAME

ADDRESS

No. 2

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LASH

LIGHTNING



IN ANCIENT EGYPT, LASH LIGHTNING WAS GIVEN ALL THE POWER, STRENGTH AND SPEED OF LIGHTNING. IT WAS THE OLD MAN OF THE PYRAMIDS WHO BESTOWED THESE POWERS UPON LIGHTNING SO THAT HE MIGHT WAGE A CONSTANT WAR AGAINST THE FORCES OF EVIL AND CRIME

IN THE CASTLE LABORATORY OF THAT SINISTER ANGEL OF EVIL, THE MASTERMIND



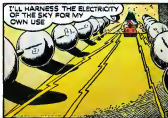
AT LAST I'VE GOT IT



WITH THIS SERUM I CAN MAKE THE MIND AND EAR OF ANY MAN OBEY MY VOICE ALONE, NOW TO CARRY OUT MY PLAN



I'LL HARNESS THE ELECTRICITY OF THE SKY FOR MY OWN USE



WITH THIS ELECTRICAL CHARGE I CAN COMBAT LIGHTNING WITH HIS OWN WEAPONS.



THAT NIGHT

I OUGHT TO REACH COLONEL WILDE'S HOME AT FORT HANCOCK SOON



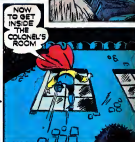
I WILL HAVE TO PROJECT MYSELF INSIDE THE FORT



THIS IS THE COLONEL'S HOME, RIGHT HERE



NOW TO GET INSIDE THE COLONEL'S ROOM



MASTERMIND MAKES USE OF HIS POWER TO DISAPPEAR AND PROJECT HIMSELF TO ANY PLACE HE PLEASES...



HE'S FAST ASLEEP. GOOD. NOW TO GIVE HIM MY INJECTION



THIS SERUM WILL PUT HIM COMPLETELY UNDER MY POWER



THE NEXT MORNING



ON THE WAY, A SINISTER FIGURE JUMPS ONTO THE COLONEL'S RUNNING BOARD



YOU CANNOT RESIST MY COMMANDS. I ORDER YOU TO HAVE ALL ROADS WITHIN FIVE MILES OF THE FORT BLOCKED BY THE MILITARY POLICE. OBEY



THIS IS MY DAUGHTER, GRACE. SHE WILL ISSUE AN ORDER TO HAVE ALL ROADS TO THE FORT BLOCKED OFF BY THE MILITARY POLICE. I'LL SIGN IT.



MEANWHILE LIGHTNING SPEEDS ALONG THE HIGHWAY

I PROMISED TO GO OVER THOSE REPORTS WITH COLONEL WILDE IN CASE OF A NATIONAL EMERGENCY



WHAT IS THE MATTER, SERGEANT?



LIGHTNING REACHES COLONEL WILDE'S OFFICE.



LIGHTNING, BLOCKED FROM USING THE ROAD, TAKES THINGS INTO HIS OWN HANDS







THIS WILL BRING SEVERAL MORE OFFICERS UNDER MY POWER. SOON I WILL BE MASTER OF EVERYONE IN THE FORT



CARRY THEM INTO THE LIBRARY, WHEN THEY REVIVE THEY WILL KNOW WHO THEIR MASTER IS AND WHOSE COMMANDS THEY MUST OBEY



YOU WILL ORDER EVERY OFFICER AND SOLDIER TO TAKE TWO ANTI-DISEASE TABLETS AND WEAR A METAL IDENTIFICATION WRIST BAND. I WILL SUPPLY THE TABLETS AND WRIST BANDS

LATER

LITTLE WILL THE MEN SUSPECT THAT THESE ANTI-DISEASE TABLETS CONTAIN MY SPECIAL SERUM AND THIS METAL BAND IS MADE OF A SUBSTANCE SENSITIVE TO RADIO WAVES



THE NEXT MORNING.....

COME ON, LINE UP AND TAKE YOUR TABLETS AND GET YOUR WRIST BANDS



YES, SIR

AT THE OFFICERS' QUARTERS AFTER ALL MEN HAVE RECEIVED THEIR PILLS AND WRIST BANDS

ALL MEN WILL PROCEED TO THEIR GUN BATTERIES AND STAND BY READY FOR ACTION

I'LL OBEY THESE COMMANDS BUT I FEEL AS IF I WERE DREAMING IT MUST BE THOSE PILLS WE TOOK



AT THE GUN BATTERIES

GUNNERS, AIM YOUR SIXTEEN INCH CANNONS ON THE CITY. A NAZI BATTLE FLEET WILL ARRIVE SHORTLY AND YOU ARE NOT TO FIRE ON THEM





BACK AT THE FORT, GRACE HAS
SLIPPED INTO SOLITARY CON-
FINEMENT PRISON CELLS...

LIGHTNING, YOU MUST HELP.
MASTERMIND HAS CONTROL
OF THE FORT AND HE IS
ATTACKING THE CITY. HE HAS
GIVEN THE MEN PILLS AND
THEY ARE UNDER HIS POWER

SO THAT'S
WHAT HE IS
UP TO

THE BOLT
LANDS..



THE MASTERMIND
MUST BE STOPPED
BEFORE IT IS TOO
LATE



LIGHTNING
GOES INTO
ACTION BY
THROWING
A BOLT

I'LL BLAST THOSE
HUNS OUT OF
THE SKY



I MUST TACKLE THOSE
BATTLE SHIPS BEFORE
THEY DO MORE DAMAGE



WITHOUT
YOUR CONTROL
ROOM YOU'RE
HELPLESS



ARE THEY
GOING TO BE
SURPRISED



LIGHTNING DIVES UNDER THE WATER AND
WRENCHES LOOSE THE SHIP'S RUDDER

ANOTHER SHIP
CRIPPLED





AS LIGHTNING PROCEEDS TO WALK UP A STONE STAIRCASE AN IRON COLLAR DROPS OVER HIM



THE BAND IS DRAWING TIGHT. THIS IS GETTING SERIOUS



IT WILL TAKE MORE THAN A TRICK LIKE THAT TO STOP ME



NOW TO GET INTO MASTERMIND'S LABORATORY



AT THAT MOMENT INSIDE THE LABORATORY.....

SO YOU WERE THE ONE TO TELL LIGHTNING OF MY PLANS



YES I DID AND I WOULD DO IT AGAIN



LIGHTNING QUICKLY FREES THE COLONEL'S DAUGHTER

THE MASTERMIND WILL PAY FOR THIS





HE IS COMING TO HIS SENSES. I MUST RETURN TO MY CAGE. IF I CAN CONTROL LIGHTNING MY SERUM WILL HAVE PASSED A CRUCIAL TEST



THE GAS HAD ME OUT FOR A FEW MINUTES



LIGHTNING. I ORDER YOU TO OBEY. SAY YOU WILL OBEY THE MASTERMIND



I CAN FEEL MY WILL POWER WEAKENING. I MUST EXERT MY STRENGTH AND RESIST



WITH A TREMENDOUS EFFORT LIGHTNING THROWS OFF THE EFFECT OF THE SERUM

MY WILL CONQUERED OVER THE COMMANDS OF THE MASTERMIND, BUT I'LL LET HIM THINK HE HAS CONQUERED ME



I WILL OBEY THE MASTERMIND

YOU WILL TAKE THE GIRL AND LEAVE THIS LABORATORY AT ONCE AND WAIT FOR ME OUTSIDE THE DOOR. WE ARE GOING TO FINISH THE WRECKING JOB I STARTED



I TRICKED THE MASTERMIND, ONCE OUTSIDE HIS LABORATORY THOSE WIRES CAN'T NULLIFY MY POWERS. WAIT HERE FOR ME







-the- Raven

THE RAVEN—MAN OF MYSTERY—TAKES THE LAW INTO HIS OWN HANDS, FIGHTING CRIMINALS WITH THEIR OWN METHODS, HIJACKING THEIR LOOT AND DISTRIBUTING IT AMONG THE POOR AND NEEDY. NO ONE KNOWS THAT THE RAVEN IS, IN REALITY, DETECTIVE SERGEANT DANNY DARTIN, EXCEPT HIS LOYAL ASSISTANT, MIKE, AND LOLA LASH, THE DAUGHTER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE



ONE DAY, DANNY DARTIN VISITS MIKE IN THE RAVEN'S HIDEOUT

THIS PAPER SAYS THAT JOE RUSSO, THE EX-MOBSTER, IS THROWING A BIG PARTY TONIGHT

WOW! EVERY CROOK, JOIN TOWN WILL BE THERE. WHAT A HAUL THE RAVEN COULD MAKE AT THAT PARTY!



THAT NIGHT AT THE PALATIAL HOME OF JOE RUSSO

DIS IS SOME SHINDIG, JOE

YEAH, I LIKE TO THROW A NICE BRAWL ONCE IN A WHILE



AN UNINVITED GUEST SILENTLY WATCHES THE CROOKS' GATHERING

LOOKS LIKE EVERYBODY'S HERE THAT'S GOING TO COME. TIME TO GO TO WORK



HERE'S SOME UNSCHEDULED ENTERTAINMENT, FOLKS

THE RAVEN!







THE RAVEN RETURNS TO HIS HIDEOUT

HOW'D YOU
MAKE OUT,
BOSS?

NO GOOD, MIKE. I WAS
HIJACKED BY A BUNCH
OF CROOKS WEARING-
GREEN HOODS



AFTER THE RAVEN HAS TOLD HIS STORY

THAT'S
TOUGH,
BOSS

THAT'S THE FIRST TIME
ANYONE EVER DOUBLE-CROSSED
THE RAVEN, MIKE, AND
THEY'RE NOT GETTING AWAY
WITH IT. I'M GOING TO GET
THAT GREEN HOOD GANG-



THE NEXT DAY, THE GREEN HOOD GANG-
STRIKE AGAIN, THIS TIME ON THEIR OWN

STAY BACK, ALL
OF YOU, OR GET
SHOT. WE'RE
DESPERATE!

THEY - THEY'RE
ROBBING THE
BANK!



YOU'RE NOT GETTING
AWAY WITH THIS

GET THIS
GUY!
SHOOT HIM!



THEY KILLED
HIM! SHOT
HIM DOWN
IN COLD
BLOOD

WE'LL DO
THE SAME
TO ANYONE
ELSE WHO
TRIES TO
STOP US



THAT WAS AN EASY JOB.
TOMORROW WE GRAB OFF
THE UNITED MACHINE
COMPANY PAYROLL



THAT NIGHT...

THE WHOLE CITY IS ALARMED
OVER THE DARING DAYLIGHT
BANK ROBBERY BY THE
GREEN HOOD GANG. NO CLUE
AS TO THE IDENTITY OF
THE GANG OR THEIR HANGOUT
HAS BEEN FOUND YET, BUT
THE POLICE PROMISE AN
EARLY ROUNDUP
OF THE
OUTFIT...



A WEEK LATER

LET'S GO IN AND SEE WHAT PROGRESS DAD IS MAKING WITH THE GREEN HOOD GANG.

OKAY, LOLA.



LOOK AT THIS! THREE BANKS, A PAYROLL AND A JEWELRY STORE HELD UP IN THE PAST WEEK! THE GREEN HOOD GANG IS PULLING A CRIME WAVE SUCH AS THIS CITY HAS NEVER SEEN.

DON'T WORRY, DAD. YOU'LL GET THEM.



GET THEM? WE'RE NO NEARER GETTING THEM NOW THAN WE WERE A WEEK AGO. THEY MUST BE CAUGHT SOON. RIGHT NOW I'D RATHER ROUND UP THOSE GREEN HOODS THAN CAPTURE THE RAVEN.



THE PAPERS ARE ALL DEMANDING ACTION, AS IF I'M NOT AS ANXIOUS AS THEY ARE. YOU KIDS BETTER RUN ALONG AND LET ME GET BACK TO WORK.

OKAY CHIEF LASH. I'M OFF DUTY NOW, BUT IF YOU NEED ME, JUST CALL.



YOU KNOW, DANNY, SOMETHING DAD SAID BACK THERE GAVE ME AN IDEA.

WHAT'S THAT, LOLA?



ABOUT WANTING THE GREEN HOODS CAPTURED MORE THAN THE RAVEN...THE RAVEN IS PRETTY ANXIOUS TO CATCH UP WITH THAT GANG AND FIX THEM FOR HIJACKING HIM, ISN'T HE, DANNY?

SURE, BUT WHAT?



WELL, DANNY, WHY DON'T YOU, AS THE RAVEN CALL A TEMPORARY TRUCE WITH THE POLICE UNTIL THE GREEN HOODS ARE CAUGHT.

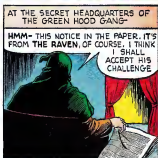
I GET IT. POLICE AND THE RAVEN WORK TOGETHER TO CATCH A MUTUAL ENEMY, EH?



LATER, THE RAVEN CALLS POLICE CHIEF LASH.

-- SO WHY NOT LET'S WORK TOGETHER, UNTIL WE CATCH THE GREEN HOODS, CHIEF?





THIS WILL FEED A LOT OF POOR KIDS AND THEIR FOLKS



HIDDEN AT STRATEGIC POINTS CHIEF LASH AND HIS MEN SURROUND THE WAREHOUSE

THERE'S THE RAVEN. IF THOSE GREEN HOODS ARE GOING TO STRIKE, THEY'D BETTER HURRY



HERE COMES A CAR. MAYBE IT'S THEM



ALL RIGHT, RAVEN. HAND OVER THE LOOT... AND THANKS FOR THAT INVITATION IN THE PAPER



OKAY, MIKE. HERE IT COMES -

HEY! HE'S THROWING THE MONEY AWAY



GOOD FOR THE BOSS. HE GOT THE MONEY AND PUT THE GREEN HOODS ON THE SPOT AT THE SAME TIME



SORRY, BOYS, BUT MY ASSISTANT HAS THE LOOT NOW AND IT WILL SOON BE BUYING FOOD AND CLOTHING FOR THE NEEDY

WHY, YOU DOUBLE-CROSSING-!



THEN THE POLICE STRIKE -

WE'VE GOT YOU SURROUNDED, GREEN HOODS. DON'T TRY TO ESCAPE

A TRAP!



WE'RE NOT CAUGHT YET
AND IF THIS THING WORKS
WE WON'T BE -



A SMOKE BOMB! GRAB
THEM. DON'T LET
THEM ESCAPE



SHORTLY THE STREET IS
THICK WITH SMOKE. THE
POLICE MILL AROUND IN
BLIND CONFUSION

TO THE
CAR,
MEN

WE'LL NEVER
GET THEM IN
THIS MESS



HERE'S ONE WHO
WON'T ESCAPE



TIGHT SQUEEZE, BUT
WE MADE IT



THAT SMOKE
BOMB DID
IT THEY
GOT AWAY

BUT THE
RAVEN
GOT ONE OF THEM
LOOK!



GOOD WORK, RAVEN.
THIS FELLOW LOOKS
LIKE SOME KIND
OF INDIAN. LET'S
QUESTION HIM

HE'S JABBERING-
AWAY IN SOME
FOREIGN LANGUAGE.
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND
A WORD



THE GREEN HOOD SPEAKS ONLY A FEW
ENGLISH WORDS. HE KEEPS REPEATING...

YACHT - BIG
WHITE
YACHT

THAT'S ALL
WE'RE GOING
TO GET OUT
OF HIM, I
GUESS

IT'S A CLUE,
ANYHOW
LET'S HEAD
FOR THE
WATERFRONT



AT THE "WATERFRONT..."

YACHT!
BIG
WHITE
YACHT

HE'S PUT US ON
THE RIGHT TRAIL.
ALL RIGHT, LET'S
GET OUT
THERE

WAIT! IF WE ALL BARGE
OUT THERE, TOGETHER,
THEY MIGHT GET WARNING
IN TIME TO ESCAPE. LET
ME GO OUT ALONE AND
KEEP THEM OCCUPIED
UNTIL YOU FELLOWS
COME OUT
A LITTLE
LATER

THE RAVEN ROWS OUT IN
A SMALL BOAT, THEN--

DON'T HEAR
ANY SOUNDS
FROM THE
DECK. THEY
MUST ALL
BE
BELOW

BELOW IN THE MAIN SALON, THE RAVEN FINDS--

YOU FOILED THE POLICE NICELY TONIGHT,
MY MEN OF THE GREEN HOOD, A FEW
MORE SUCCESSFUL ROBBERIES AND WE'LL
HAVE ENOUGH CASH TO GO BACK TO
CENTRAL AMERICA AND
BUILD A BIG NEW
TEMPLE TO YOUR
GOD

SO THAT'S IT!
GOD

DON'T BELIEVE HIM, THIS MAN IS
FOOLING YOU. HE'S GOING TO KEEP
ALL THE MONEY YOU'VE STOLEN,
FOR HIMSELF

GRAB THIS INTRUDER

GOOD WORK, THIS IS
ONE TIME THE RAVEN
GOT TOO BOLD

KILL HIM NOW, THEN HE
WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO
TRY AND STOP YOU FROM
GETTING YOUR
TEMPLE MONEY
AGAIN

ME
KILL!

LOOKS LIKE WE ARRIVED
JUST IN
TIME

THE POLICE!

YOU'VE BEEN WANTING A CRACK AT THIS GANG BOYS. GO TO IT!



AFTER A BRIEF STRUGGLE, THE GREEN HOOD GANG ARE ALL CAPTURED

THE POLICE HAVE BEEN WONDERING WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, LARUE, AFTER YOU GOT OUT OF THE BOOTLEGGING BUSINESS, SO THIS IS YOUR NEW GRIFF

IT WOULD HAVE WORKED, TOO, IF THE RAVEN HAD NOT JOINED FORCES WITH YOU



I'D BETTER SEE WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THE RAVEN



HE'S OUT COLD. THIS IS THE CHANCE I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR. ALL I HAVE TO DO IS LIFT HIS HOOD AND I'LL KNOW WHO THE RAVEN IS. HE'LL NEVER KNOW I BROKE MY PROMISE



BUT CHIEF LASH OVERCOMES THE TEMPTATION AND REMAINS A MAN OF HIS WORD

I-I CAN'T DO IT. I'D NEVER BE ABLE TO FORGIVE MYSELF. I MADE A VOW AND I'LL KEEP IT--- HE'S COMING TO, NOW



ALL RIGHT, RAVEN, GET GOING. THE GREEN HOOD GANG IS CAPTURED AND OUR TRUCE IS OVER

IT WAS NICE WORKING WITH YOU, CHIEF



I'LL BE SEEING YOU, CHIEF

YOU'RE DARNED TOOTIN'. I'LL BE TRYING HARDER THAN EVER TO GET YOU, RAVEN



THE NEXT DAY

I DON'T KNOW WHY I WAS SUCH AN HONORABLE FOOL. BAH! I SHOULD HAVE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF THAT SCOUNDREL AND TAKEN HIM PRISONER

I THINK YOU DID RIGHT, DAD

I-ER -I'M GLAD YOU DIDN'T, CHIEF LASH



DON'T MISS THE NEXT ADVENTURE OF THE RAVEN

DOCTOR NEMESIS

Rx

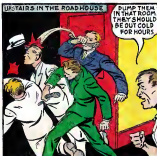
YOUNG DR. BRADLEY HAS DISCOVERED A TRUTH WHICH WHEN INJECTED INTO A PERSON PUTS THEM INTO A COMA DURING WHICH PERIOD THEY ANSWER THE ABSOLUTE TRUTH TO ANY QUESTION ASKED. BRADLEY HAS KEPT HIS DISCOVERY A SECRET AND USED IT ONLY WHEN HE GOES FORTH AS THAT MYSTERIOUS CRIME-BUSTER, **DOCTOR NEMESIS!!!**







UPSTAIRS IN THE ROADHOUSE



A HALF HOUR LATER, DR. JIM BRADLEY STIRS



GOT TO THE AMBULANCE WITHOUT BEING DISCOVERED. AH, HERE'S MY EQUIPMENT IN THE KIT.



WHEN JIM BRADLEY STIRS OUT OF THE SHEET HE IS DR. NEMESIS



RILEY THE GUY WHO'S SUPPOSED TO BE VISITING HIS SICK GRANDMOTHER, HMM.











MARVO

The MAGICIAN and TITO

MARVO, THE GREAT
MAGICIAN, MASTER OF
ILLUSIONS, AND HIS SMART
LITTLE PET MONKEY, TITO,
HAVE REACHED THE PACIFIC
COAST CITY OF MIDDLE-
TOWN IN THEIR TRAVELS
AROUND THE COUNTRY!



THIS IS THE
CHINESE SECTION
OF THE CITY, TITO



SUDDENLY...

OH, HELP!

THAT GIRL'S
IN TROUBLE!



THEY'RE GOING INTO
THAT ART SHOP! COME
ON, TITO

CHREEE!!

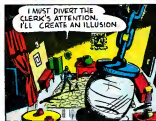


AS MARVO ENTERS THE CHINESE ART SHOP

THE GENTLEMAN WINKS
TO PURCHASE SOME FINE
PIECE, PERHAPS?

YES - BUT
I THINK I'LL
LOOK AROUND
FIRST





WITH A QUICK GESTURE, THE GREAT AMAYO CREATES A STARTLING ILLUSION

PRESTO SKELETO!

EEF!



AFTER RELEASING THE GIRL, AMAYO LEADS HER OUT A BACK DOOR...

WE CAN GET TO MY CAR THROUGH THIS ALLEY



HELP!



THE ILLUSIONS HAVE DISAPPEARED, BUT THEY HELPED US ESCAPE FROM OUR EVIL FRIENDS

YOU WERE WONDERFUL!



KATE CRAMER, GIRL REPORTER ON THE RECORD, TELLS HER STORY...

I'VE BEEN TRYING TO UNCOVER A RING OF OPIUM SMUGGLERS OPERATING IN MIDDLE TOWN! THAT THUG WAS ARRESTED FOR PEDDLING THE STUFF. HE PAID A HEAVY FINE AND WAS RELEASED. I FOLLOWED HIM!



I WAS HOPING HE'D LEAD ME TO THE BIG BOSS. HE MUST HAVE SUSPECTED I WAS FOLLOWING HIM, SO HE GRABBED ME!



LATER AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, KATE REPORTS TO THE CHIEF...

YOU TOOK A BIG CHANCE, INVESTIGATING THIS DOPE SMUGGLING YOURSELF, MISS CRAMER. I'LL TAKE SOME OF THE BOYS DOWN TO CHINATOWN RIGHT AWAY

THAT'S WHERE I CAME IN. THE MASKED MAN MUST BE THE BIG BOSS THEN?



WHEN THE POLICE RETURN TO
THE CHINESE ART SHOP...

WE'RE TOO
LATE. THEY'VE
CLEARED OUT!



I HAVE A PLAN
WORKED OUT.
WILL YOU HELP
ME?

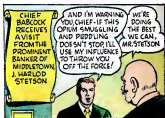
IT WILL BE
A PLEASURE,
EH, TITO?



CHIEF
BARBCKOCK
RECEIVES
A VISIT
FROM THE
PROMINENT
BANKER OF
MIDDLETOWN,
J. HARLOD
STETSON

AND I'M WARNING
YOU, CHIEF-IF THIS
OPIMUM SMUGGLING
AND PIEDDLING
DOESN'T STOP, I'LL
USE MY INFLUENCE
TO THROW YOU
OFF THE FORCE!

WE'RE
DOING
THE BEST
WE CAN,
MR. STETSON.



STETSON MEANS BUSINESS.
ALL RIGHT, IF I DON'T
STOP THIS OPIMUM RACKET
IN THE CITY - I MIGHT
AS WELL QUIT!



THAT NIGHT..

WILL HERE WE
ARE AT THE
CITY DOCKS



MY HUNCH IS THAT THE
OPIMUM IS COMING IN ON
ONE OF THESE SHIPS FROM
THE ORIENT! KEEP AN EYE
OPEN FOR ANYTHING
SUSPICIOUS



SOON..

LOOK, THERE'S THE
FELLOW WHO SEIZED
ME NEAR THE ART SHOP
TODAY. LOOKS LIKE
WE'RE ON THE RIGHT
TRACK!

HE'S
GOING UP
TO THE SEA
CAPTAIN

















—AND ITS MACH
IS BROKEN!



HOW TO FIND THAT OLD
WHO SAVED ME!



WHILE LUCH CONFRONTS
QUEEN MOLETTA IN THE COMB CHAM

THE FORTY MAN HAS
BEEN KILLED BY THE WILD
GUY! NOW I INSIST YOU
MARRY ME AND GIVE ME
THE POWERS TO BUILD
YOUR CITY!

YOU TANTALOUS
DOG! YOU SHALL
DIE FOR THIS!



NO, DARK MOLETTA! IT IS YOU
WHO SHALL DIE... UNLESS YOU
DO AS I SAY!



LOOKS LIKE LUCH IS TRYING
TO MAKE TROUBLE FOR QUEEN
MOLETTA!

THE BIGGER...
NO, NO!!!



GOING
DOWN!!



MAIN
FLOOR!



ALL OUT...!!

AGHHH...!!



BEFORE ANOTHER HOUR
PASSES, YOU SHALL DIE,
WICKED LUG!

MERCY,
BEAUTIFUL AND MIGHTY QUEEN!

DEATH IS TOO SEVERE A
PENALTY, QUEEN MOLETTA

THE WHITE
ONE FROM
THE UPPER
WORLD HAS TOO SOFT
A HEART!!



GAIN CONGO JACK INTERCEDES
AND SAVES THE TREACHEROUS
LUG FROM DEATH...

AS THE WHITE ONE
WINKS...GO INTO ETERNAL
EXILE, TRAITOR!



REVENGE! REVENGE!
I SHALL RISE THE CITY OF
THE GREEN MOLENT! AND
CONGO JACK WILL PAY DEARLY
FOR UPSETTING MY PLANS!



AS LUGH MAKES HIS WAY ALONG THE
PATH, HE IS UNAWARE OF A PAIR OF
FIERY EYES WATCHING HIS MOVEMENTS.



A BLUE
DWARF!!....

WAIT! I COME AS A
FRIEND... I MUST SEE
YOUR KING, TAKE ME TO HIM!



THE BLUE DWARF LEADS LUGH TO
THE CITY OF THE TINY MEN...

HOW IS BROUGHT BEFORE
KING BOBO OF THE BLUE DWARFS.

MIGHTY KING... LEAD YOUR BRAVE
FOLLOWERS AGAINST THE MOLEMAN!

WHAT REWARD SHALL BE MINE,
OH CLEVER MOLEMAN?

THE GREEN
MOLEMAN ARE OUR
ENEMIES! HOW DARE
YOU COME INTO MY
KINGDOM?

I AM YOUR FRIEND,
KING BOBO. MY
QUEEN HAS
TAKEN ME OUT OF
MY KINGDOM!

I HAVE A GREAT PLAN,
BY WHICH WE SHALL
BOTH PROFIT!

ALL WHO SUPPORT THE
QUEEN, AND ALSO THE WHITE
DOG FROM THE UPPER WORLD,
I WILL REWARD THE NEW
RULER, AND REWARD YOU WELL!

A DOZEN CRESS OF
RICH GOLD TREASURES, I YOU
HAVE A GREAT FAVOR FOR
THEM, EH, KING BOBO?



IT SHALL BE DONE! GUARD, GIVE
THE SIGNAL FOR THE WARRIORS
TO GATHER!

THE SIGNAL IS GIVEN FOR THE BLUE
DWARF WARRIORS TO GATHER AT THE
PALACE OF THEIR KING!



AS THE SOUND OF THE GREAT BELL
REVERBERATES THROUGHOUT THE DOMAIN
OF THE BLUE DWARFS, WARRIORS OF THE
SMALL MEN SPEED TO THE PALACE OF
THEIR MONARCH!

BRAVE SUBJECTS... ONCE
AGAIN WE TAKE UP OUR ARMS
AGAINST THE DREADED MOLEMAN!
WE WILL BE VICTORIOUS AND OUR
FRIENDS WILL ALL RISE OVER THEIR CITY
IN ETERNAL FRIENDSHIP WITH US!





Art by A. Scherzinger

WHEN THE WHITE INTRUDER,
REDAIN'S ARS SENSES, HE WILL
WISH I HAD KILLED HIM FOR GOOD!

SO LUGI IS THEIR LEADER!
I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN IT!

OUR MEN ARE BEING SLAUGHTERED!
THEY ARE OUTNUMBERED
BY THE BLUE DWARFS. SOUND THE
GONG FOR SURRENDER!

AS YOU WISH,
YOUR MAJESTY!



THE GONG!! QUEEN
MOLETTIA ORDERS HER
MEN TO SURRENDER!
WE HAVE WON, KING BOBO!

I WILL ORDER
MY MEN TO CEASE
FIGHTING!



THE MOLEMEN STAND IN SILENCE
AS THE PROUD KING PROCLAIMS HIM-
SELF THEIR NEW MONARCH.....

THE EVIL LUGI IS NEXT TO THE
VICTORIOUS BLUE DWARFS...

THIS
MOMENT FORTH YOU
WILL OBEY A NEW
RULER KING LUGI!!



EAT TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT, MIGHTY
BLUE DWARFS! YOU HAVE WON A
GREAT VICTORY THIS DAY!



YOU SHALL BE
GUEST OF HONOR AT
MY MARRIAGE TO QUEEN
MOLETTIA. THEN I SHALL GIVE
YOU THE CHESTS OF GOLD
TRINKETS AS I PROMISED,
KING BOBO!

PREPARE YOURSELF FOR THE MARRIAGE CEREMONY, MY PRETTY ONE!

YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE, EVIL LUG!

MEANWHILE, IN A DUNGEON BENEATH THE PALACE, CONVO JACK REGAINS HIS CONSCIOUSNESS....

THAT THING TOOK AWAY MY WIFE... I MUST HAVE PASSED OUT!

WHILE MY LITTLE FRIEND IS DRINKING HIS WINE, I'LL GIVE HIM A CUPPER HE WON'T FORGET!

THAT'S FOR NOT GUARDING ME AS YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO... YOU LITTLE RUNT!



LUG THINKS HE PUT ME OUT OF THE WAY FOR GOOD... BUT IS HE GOING TO BE SURPRISED!!

IN THE CEREMONIAL CHAMBER, LUG! BEGINS THE WEDDING CEREMONY, WITH KING BOBO AND THE OTHER BLUE DWARVES... AS HIS GUESTS....

KING LUG! FEELS HIS PRIZE, MANY NEW GOLD THINGS! MAKE OLD BOBO VERY HAPPY!

I WONDER WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE PALACE?



DESIGNED TO HER FETE, QUEEN MOLETTA ENTERS FOR THE CEREMONY....

OH THOU IMAGE OF ADORN!... WITNESS MY MARRIAGE WITH THE FAIR MOLETTA THIS DAY!





HERE'S WHERE I CRASH
THIS PARTY!

TWO BIRDS WITH ONE
STONE ... NOT BAD!!



A PRESENT
FOR YOU LUG!!

THINGS ARE GETTING
HOT IN HERE....
THINK I'LL GET SOME AIR!

AFTER
THAT....
KILL
THE WHITE DEVIL!!



OOOHHH!!



I'M LEADING THE LITTLE RUNTS
RIGHT INTO A TIGHT QUICK
MOLEMAN ATTACK THE BLUE
DWARVES THEY ARE UNARMED AND
HEAVY WITH MUCH FOOD AND DRINK!!

BOULESED BY THE WORDS OF CONSO JACK,
THE GREEN MOLEMAN SEIZE THEIR WEAPONS
AND RENEW THE BATTLE AGAINST THE
BLUE DWARVES!

FOLLOW THE
MIGHTY WHITE ONE!

KILL THE
BLUE DWARVES!

FREE
QUEEN MOLETTA



THE BLOATED BLUE DWARFS
WENT MATEN FOR THE GALLANT
MOLETTA!

AND THAT THE END
OF KING BOBO

LOCAL BLUE DWARF MEET YOUR
KING IS DEAD! YOU ARE LOST!

THE WHITE ONE
IS A GREAT SPIRIT!
HE WILL DESTROY
US ALL!!

THE TERROR-STRIKEN BLUE DWARFS
DASH INTO THE JUNGLE BACK TO
THEIR OWN HOMES....

BACK TO OUR
HOMES! NEVER MORE
WILL WE ATTACK THE
DOMAIN OF GREEN MOLETTA!

THE GREAT WHITE ONE FROM
THE UPPER WORLD HAS DONE A
MIGHTY DEED THIS DAY

I DON'T
THINK THE
BLUE DWARFS
WILL BOTHER YOU ANY
MORE, BUT WHAT ABOUT
LUGI HERE?

THE EVIL LUGI SHALL
ROT IN THE DUNGEON
OF DARKNESS UNTIL
DEATH ALONG WITH
RELEASE HIM!!

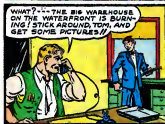
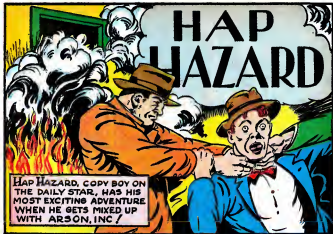
THE WHITE ONE HAS A
QUESTION TO ASK YOU
MAY HAVE ANYTHING YOU
WISH

GREEN
MOLETTA
[... I WOULD RETURN
TO THE UPPER WORLD
I BELONG THERE

I WILL BE SAD TO SEE
YOU LEAVE... BUT IF SHALL
BE AS YOU WISH

DAVID JACK RETURNS TO THE
MOUNTAIN AND THERMS OF DANHERST
AFRICA. DON'T MISS THE NEXT
EXCITING ISSUE!!

Paul
Arthur
Schneider - 41

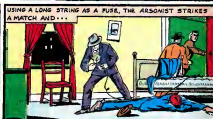




HAP BREAKS AWAY FROM JOE POOLE AND POL-
LOWS THE TWO MEMBERS OF ARSON, INC...











The Gold

A True Scotland Yard Story

MURDER was far from Mrs. Isabelle Wilson's thoughts as she settled herself for a nap on that Friday afternoon of July, 1910. The little town of Slough, England, was bathed in summer sunlight. The secondhand clothes shop she kept was in a peaceful side street and she was a pleasant-faced woman of nearly seventy who had no enemies.

She could not have guessed that the Grim Reaper lurked wreithlike in the shadows—and that her death at the hand of a killer was already written in the black Book of Doom.

Yet, a few hours later, her dead body was found, and messages of appeal were flashing to Scotland Yard, the country's greatest organization for the tracking down of criminals. The local police had admitted their defeat. The crime, by its very simplicity, was destined to be one of the most baffling in the history of English homicides and the horror of it made interest in the case nationwide.

Mrs. Wilson was found smothered to death with a cushion lashed over her face. Her hands were bound with a silk scarf, and there were scars on her head showing that she had gone down stunned by a shower of brutal blows.

The motive was plain enough. Her purse was found empty, drawers had been ransacked, and jewelry had been stolen. It was a clear case of murder followed by robbery.

What made the thing difficult was that it seemed to be the bungling work of some amateur, a petty thief perhaps, lured into murder by visions of wealth, or a passing tramp who had tried his hand at burglary. Such criminals are harder to run to earth than those in the professional class whose records, photographs, and fingerprints are kept on file. No one had been seen to leave or enter the place. The local police claimed there were no clues.

But Scotland Yard dispatched a master crime hunter, an ace of detectives who had won his spurs as a subordinate in the famous Moat Farm mystery a few months before. This was Detective Elies Bower. He was a typical Scotland Yard man—powerfully built, quiet spoken, resourceful, and experienced. His work had trained him to observe closely and think logically.

When the murder call came he took a fast train down to Slough accompanied by an aide-camp named Burton. It was the first important case that Bower had handled alone, and, reviewing the facts that had been given him, he went into it with no great hopes of success. Arrived at the scene of the crime he was still far from optimistic.

Mrs. Wilson's dress was torn, telling of the desperate fight she had put up. There were bloodstains on the floor from the blows she had received, but, as the local police pointed out, real clues seemed to be lacking. No one could say just what amount of money had been taken from her. Friends reported that she had always been secretive on the subject of her savings.

Faced with a seemingly blank wall from which there was no starting point Detective Bower did not lie down on the job. He began where the local police had finished. He commenced a minute search of the room, and nothing was too trivial to attract his attention or hold his interest. At the end of a few minutes he paused.

Near one wall he found a scrap of brown paper which had been carelessly dropped there. The local police had passed it by as being insignificant. But Bower was struck at once by an odd fact. The paper had a cylindrical shape. He picked it up, stared at it closely, and his eyes brightened.

The form of the paper indicated that it might have been wrapped around a number of coins, and under close examination, he was able to make out the indentations made by milled edges.

He went to the window, the paper in his hand, and for breathless seconds he was completely absorbed. The local police looked on in wonder and annoyance, thinking that he had lost sight of the purpose for his being there. But Bower's eyes remained fixed on the paper.

He was counting the indentations on it now, and he finally raised his head with a grim smile of satisfaction. There had been twenty-one coins wrapped in the paper—two of them smaller than the rest. They seemed the size of sovereigns and half sovereigns. It was a reasonable deduction that there had been ninety

Coin Case

by Cliff Howe

of the former and two of the latter. Bower put the paper carefully away in his pocket.

Then he turned again to the murdered woman. The local medical man was examining her. On one of her hands was a dark stain which looked like blood. Bower stooped closer, taking the bloodstained hand in his. His eyes brightened again. Under one of her finger nails was a tiny fragment of something that looked like human skin. Here was an inference which couldn't be ignored.

"Find a man who has been scratched," said Bower, "probably on his face."

It was a simple enough deduction. But the policemen of the town had not thought of it. It had taken the trained mind of a master detective.

The situation had already been clarified. There was now something definite to work on. With the help of the local constabulary Bower began combing the district. At the same time he made exhaustive inquiries. Was there anybody, any questionable person, who might have lived near Mrs. Wilson and known that she had money?

At this point a neighbor mentioned the name of William Brooks. He was a young man who had served in the British army and whose father had been the manager of a shop next to Mrs. Wilson's. Brooks had moved away from Slough two months before, but, on the day of the murder, four people had seen him in the town.

Bower communicated with the police of every village within fifty miles of Slough. His quest soon grew complicated by the discovery that Brooks' real name was Broome, and that the other was a false one under which he had enlisted in the army.

Bower persisted, however, over a period of several days until Brooks, or Broome, was located. He established an observation post in a church tower and watched the house where Broome was supposed to be. When Broome came out, Bower descended and followed him. Drawing near he noticed with a start of excitement that Broome had a scratch on one cheek.

"You're the man who called himself Brooks," he said. "How did you get that scratch on your cheek?"

Broome immediately told a plausible story, saying that he had been in a street fight. But Bower had him held for further questioning and quietly went to the young man's room.

One of the first things he discovered was an envelope containing twenty-one gold coins—nineteen sovereigns and two half sovereigns. And it was now that Bower showed brilliant strategy in his handling of the case. It was, he knew, one thing to suspect a man of murder and another to present evidence that would convince a jury.

Broome denied that he had stolen the coins, and Bower, ace of crime hunters that he was, called in the services of an expert scientist—Professor William Wilcox, a man whose findings had already sent two other murderers to the gallows. He turned over to him the paper that he had so carefully saved.

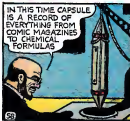
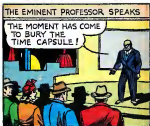
"Examine that, professor, and tell me exactly what you find."

The professor, with the aid of elaborate scientific instruments, subjected the paper to the most rigorous examination possible. He made measurements down to an infinitesimal part of an inch—and he treated the paper to a chemical analysis.

"I find," he said at last, "the marks of twenty-one coins, two smaller than the rest. Furthermore, there are minute traces of gold adhering to the surfaces of the paper, showing that the coins were made of this metal. My conclusion is, according to my measurements, that the paper contained nineteen sovereigns and two half sovereigns."

Bower smiled again in grim satisfaction. This was circumstantial evidence that was overwhelming in its import. Broome, faced with it, became confused. He told stories that conflicted his alibi as to where he had been on the day of the murder were investigated carefully, and it was found that they did not check up.

The young man was brought to trial and, because of Bower's brilliant work, the jury returned a verdict of guilty when the case came up. Broome was sentenced to a murderer's fate. Step by step Bower had entangled him in a mesh of logic from which there was no escape, and he had added another famous chapter to the records of Scotland Yard.



IT'S A PITY THAT ALTHOUGH THE PEOPLE WHO WILL LIVE IN THE YEAR 5000 WILL KNOW ALL ABOUT US, WE WON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THEM

I'VE GOT IT!



WHIZ HURRIEDLY DONS HIS FUTUROSCOPE

I'LL VISIT THE YEAR 5000...



--AND SEE WHAT THEY THINK AFTER THEY OPEN THE TIME CAPSULE



WHIZ FLASHES INTO THE FUTURE



SEEMS PRETTY QUIET HERE IN THE YEAR 5000

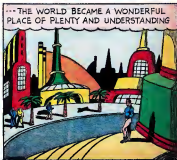


IF I FOLLOW THIS ROAD LONG ENOUGH I SHOULD MEET SOMEONE



HEY!...
WHAT'S THIS?





THEN WE DUG UP THE
TIME CAPSULE ---

MALU--JUST
IMAGINE!
THIS IS FROM
THE YEAR
1941

I WONDER
IF THEIR
TIMES WERE
MORE
EXCITING
THAN NOW?



AND DISCUSSED IT

I MOVE WE OPEN THE
TIME CAPSULE IN
THE GREAT HALL
TOMORROW

WHY
NOT
NOW?



THAT NIGHT ---

BE CAREFUL OF THAT
TIME CAPSULE, MEN, I
THINK WE'RE GOING TO
LEARN A LOT OF USEFUL
THINGS FROM IT

YES,
MALU



THEN WHAT
HAPPENED
BONA

MALU DID
LEARN A
GREAT DEAL
FROM THE TIME
CAPSULE

BUT
THEY
WERE BAD
THINGS



MALU BUILT WEAPONS FROM THE PICTURES IN
THE TIME CAPSULE AND SET OUT TO TERRORIZE
THE DEFENSELESS WORLD



NOW MALU HUNTS
US DOWN AS IF
WE WERE
ANIMALS

I'LL SEE IF
I CAN
HELP



THE PEOPLE HAD BEEN SPOTTED BY
MALU AND HIS 'MEN

THEY RAN DOWN
HERE, MALU

FIRE A SMOKE
BOMB AT THEM!









MOTHER'S LITTLE HELPERS

GEE, BUT THE YARD'LL LOOK NICE WHEN WE'RE THROUGH, WON'T IT, NANCY?

YES, IT'LL BE THE NICEST IN THE WHOLE WORLD



WE'LL GO TO THE STORE FOR YOU, MOTHER...

JUST GIVE US THE LIST...



I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT'S COME OVER THOSE CHILDREN ALL OF A SUDDEN, JIM—THEY'VE WORKED LIKE BEAVERS ALL DAY

ESPECIALLY SINCE IT ISN'T NEAR CHRISTMAS OR THEIR BIRTHDAYS, EH?



THEY'RE STILL AT IT, JIM

I WONDER WHAT THEY'RE UP TO



DAD, WILL YOU TAKE US OUT FOR A WALK?

GEE, DAD, IT'S A SWEET NIGHT

OK, KIDS—LET'S GO



YOU KNOW, NANCY, THE NEW SUPER-MYSTERY COMICS IS OUT TODAY

AND IT HAS SUCH SWEET STORIES—HASN'T IT BILLY?

I GET IT NOW



I DON'T BLAME YOU FOR LIKING SUPER-MYSTERY COMICS I LIKE IT TOO BUT YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE SEE DAD—MAGNO—VULCAN AND BUCKSKIN ARE THE SWEETEST AND LITTLE DANET WHO HELPS MAGNO IS CUTE

BUILD-UP TO GET IT



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